## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 280008 ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 AID-05 AGRE-00 PRS-01 USIE-00 EB-08 IGA-02 L-03 /035 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:DBARCHARD:DE APPROVED BY NEA:ADUBS NEA/PAB:JACOON D/HA:MSCHNEIDER (DRAFT) ASIA/BIS:JCOE (DRAFT) USDA:HNORTON (PHONE)

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O 222246Z NOV 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY DACCA IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 280008

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: EAGR, EAID, SHUM, BG, US

SUBJECT: PL-480 AND HUMAN RIGHTS

**REF: STATE 278197** 

1. YOU WILL BE RECEIVING BY USINFO SEPTEL TEXT OF DAN MORGAN ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED IN THE WASHINGTON POST NOVEMBER 22 REPORTING THAT PL-480 FOOD AID WAS HELD BACK FOR SEVEN WEEKS PENDING AN ADMINISTRATION STUDY OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS. MORGAN REPORTS THAT THREE COUNTRIES, BANGLADESH, INDONESIA AND KOREA, ARE ON AN ADMINISTRATION LIST OF COUNTRIES WITH QUOTE TROUBLESOME UNQUOTE HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS AND THAT HUMAN RIGHTS RELATED PROVISIONS WILL BE INCLUDED IN NEW PL-480 AGREEMENTS WITH THESE COUNTRIES. (THE NEW REPORTING REQUIREMENT IS EXPLAINED IN PARA 6B 1-2-3 OF REFTEL AND UNDER SECTION VI OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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PROPOSED TITLE I AGREEMENT.)

- 2. WE ARE FORMULATING PRESS GUIDANCE ON THIS SUBJECT AND WILL CABLE IT TO YOU AS SOON AS IT IS CLEARED.
- 3. BANGLADESH EMBASSY ECONOMIC MINISTER S.R. KARIM PHONED DESK OFFICER REGARDING THE ARTICLE. IN RESPONSE TO HIS

QUESTION, WE HAVE CONFIRMED THE ACCURACY OF THE GENERAL

THRUST OF THE STORY INCLUDING THE DELAY IN FORWARDING NE-GOTIATING INSTRUCTIONS TO ALLPL-480 COUNTRIES. WE ASSURED KARIM THAT WE ARE NOT DRAWING BACK FROM THE AMOUNT OF TITLE I GRAIN WHICH WE PLEDGED IN PARIS AND THAT NE-GOTIATING INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN SENT TO DACCA ON AN INITIAL PL-480 PROGRAM. THE PL-480 AGREEMENT WILL INCLUDE A PROVISION REGARDING THE USE OF PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE NEEDY. WE TOLD KARIM THAT INCLUSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS RELATED PROVISIONS IN SEVERAL AGREEMENTS REFLECTS OUR GENERAL CONCERN OVER HUMAN RIGHTS IN A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES. THERE IS NOT, HOWEVER, AN ADMINISTRATION LIST OF COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE DEMONSTRATED A QUOTE CONSISTANT PATTERN OF GROSS VIOLATIONS UNQUOTE OF HUMAN RIGHTS. AS TO THE SPECIFIC HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM IN BANGLADESH OF CONCERN HERE, WE INDICATED THAT THE ISSUES OF POLITICAL PRISONERS AND DETENTION FOR LONG PERIODS WITHOUT CHARGE WERE REGARDED AS THE MOST WORRISOME.

4. YOU MAY WISH TO DRAW ON THE ABOVE IF QUERIED BY BDG OFFICIALS. HABIB

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## Message Attributes

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